
7-BLUE NEWS

This Issue:

- **Teacher Updates-** Explanation of what is happening in all Classes for February/ March.
- **Happenings on 7 Blue team and at OMS!**

Don't forget to check our 7 Blue Schoology Pages for updates... Take a few minutes to review Schoology with your kids! Let us know if you need help accessing information on this important communication tool!

Dates to Remember

February Break	February 12- 22
Early Release Day	March 1
Oaks Got Talent Tryouts	March 8
Oaks Got Talent Show	April 9

Teacher Updates

From the Social Studies Classroom with Mrs. Binder-

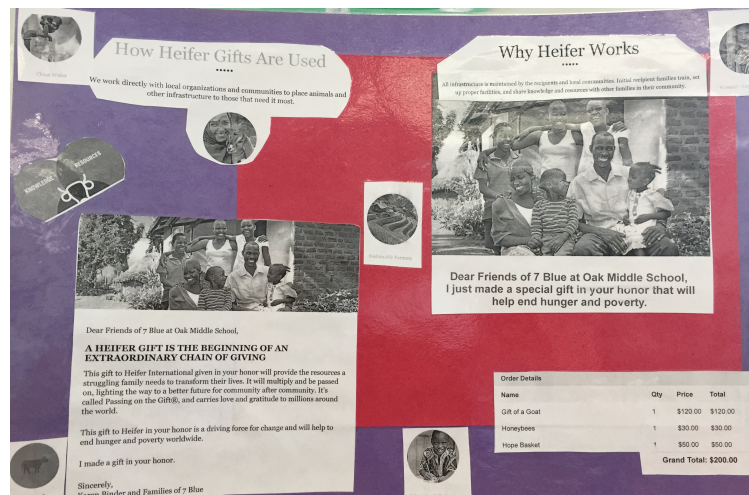
We have been very busy learning about Africa and important Economic Terms and Vocabulary. Students had a chance to explore the lasting effects of colonization/imperialism. **HOW DID YOU LIKE THE PROJECTS YOUR CHILDREN CREATED?** Students studied Apartheid and how Nelson Mandela worked tirelessly in his life to improve lives for South Africans which was a great tie to the Language Arts novel students are reading.

We are now busy learning about problems (and solutions to) many people in Africa face including those relating to Civil War, Disease, Poverty, Education as well as Climate and Weather. We will look at ways the Global Community is stepping up to help countries in need develop and will be creating Public Service Announcements to reflect what we have learned about some of the topics. **LOOK FOR THEM SOON!** We continue to find ways to use exciting and creative IPAD technology to share our learning!

We were also lucky enough this month to have a guest speaker, who works with People Helping People Global, about his experience providing micro loans to people.

We will end our unit on Africa with units on Micro Entrepreneurship and the Sahara Desert. We will also take time to reflect on the many positive cultural contributions Africa brings to the Global world!

Next area of study will be the Middle East. As always, we would love for family and friends to come in to our class and share global experiences. I look forward to hearing from you.



Our Heifer Contributions going a long way!

From the Science Classroom with Mrs. DePalo-

We had a great time getting married and having a child right away! Thank goodness it wasn't for real! Too young! But their babies were so beautiful! We are moving forward into Genetics. This unit will be full of many parts. So far we have covered the base information: dominant and recessive genes, phenotypes and genotypes, purebred and hybrid pairs. The children are working on punnett squares and learning about Gregor Mendel with his pea plants. I am still trying to encourage students to use flash cards and to record their voice with the science notes to prepare for the assessments. Some students are so good at drawing, they should draw illustrations for the vocabulary. I heard that there were some wonderful family discussions among families on genetic engineering. Hope you are all well and enjoying the winter.

From the ELA Classroom with Ms. Wells-

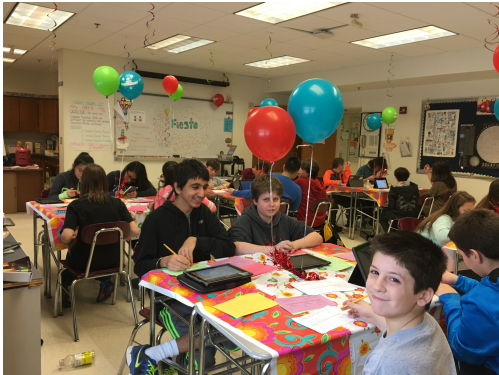
We are wrapping up our novel unit on Afrika. To finish this unit we will be working on a final essay analyzing theme in Afrika. Students will work on preparing quotes and filling out organizers for this essay before break, and we will get into the drafting and editing processes after we return to school.

After completing Afrika, we will begin reading So Far From the Bamboo Grove. Since we will be reading another novel, students will have similar expectations to the Afrika unit for reading, completing questions, having class discussions, and taking reading quizzes. Enjoy the upcoming February break!

From the Math Classroom with Ms. Lockwood-

In math class we just finished our Comparing and Scaling unit and our study of ratios and proportions. We've just begun our new unit - "Moving Straight Ahead". In this unit, our students will be developing their algebraic skills. They will be introduced to situations that can be modeled with linear relationships and graphed with straight lines. We will be using graphing technology on the iPads to explore how linear equations, tables and graphs are related. Students will learn about dependent and independent variables and how to show relationships between the variables using different forms of representation. We will also

be solving equations where the unknown is on both sides of the equal sign, and relating those equations to real life situations. Our work in this unit will provide a solid foundation for students in their work next year on linear and non-linear relationships. An overview of the topics in Moving Straight Ahead can be found in the 7 Blue Math course in Schoology and download the Family Letter in the Moving Straight Ahead folder.



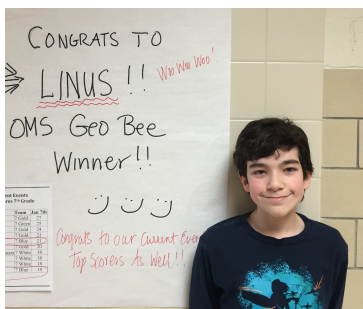
Fiesta Day Math Review!

From the Essential Skills Classroom with Mrs. Orlando-

In ELA we have been working through our Adversity unit, with a focus on Nelson Mandela and Apartheid. We recently finished reading Journey to Joburg, which dealt with themes of racism and perseverance, both of which we made connections to throughout our unit. In Math, we have recently begun our Moving Straight Ahead Unit, where we talk about constant rates, linear and non-linear equations, and the slope of a line.

Other Important Team Happenings

Geo Bee with Linus Adler



Students on 7-Blue recently faced off in our Annual National Geographic Geo Bee to compete for a spot in the final 7th and 8th grade Geo Bee! The final winner on our team was Linus Adler. He whisked through each question like a true professional and went on to capture FIRST PLACE for all of OMS. We will hear if he will gain a spot to compete at the state level next month! We are rooting for him!

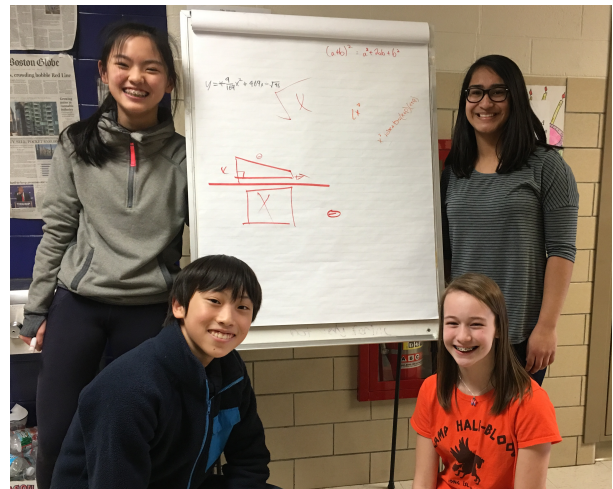


JOHN COLLINS AWARD ON 7 BLUE

Congratulations to our own Mrs. Lockwood who was awarded the John C. Collins Excellence award for her contributions at Oak. This was extra-special because our 7 Blue student, Holly Hruskoci, is Mr. Collin's granddaughter!

AMC 10 MATH QUALIFIERS!!

7 Blue congratulates Alyssa Guo, Aniya Chojar, Morgan Smith and Shohei Oyama who all qualified to take the AMC 10 Math Challenge Exam based on their excellent scores on the AMC 8. The AMC challenge is a series of above grade level math skills that only promote the top 10% of students at each level to move on to the next challenge. Way to go Alyssa, Aniya, Morgan and Shohei!



OUR BEAUTIFUL NEW 7 BLUE BABIES!!!!



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